Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 /069 W

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P R 071655Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2115 INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMEMBASSY ANKARA USMISSION USUN NY USMISSION USNATO DIA

CONFIDENTIAL NICOSIA 2443

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GR, TU, UN, CY, PFOR

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR

- 1. I SAW GREEK AMBASSADOR DOUNTAS AUGUST 6 FOR TOUR D'HORIZON ON CYPRUS PROBLEM IN LIGHT OF PREVIOUS WEEK'S DEVELOPMENTS IN HELSINKI AND VIENNA III.
- 2. WE BOTH REMARKED THAT SITUATION

ANOMALOUS. ON THE ONE HAND, THERE HAD BEEN ELEMENTS OF APPARENT PROGRESS. IN THIS REGARD WE NOTED EXCELLENT ATMOSPHERE AT VIENNA III, DENKTASH'S COMMITMENT TO DISCUSS GEOGRAPHY, GOC'S ACCEPTANCE OF BI-REGIONALISM (BY MAKARIOS AT HELSINKI AND BY CLERIDES AT VIENNA), GOC'S WISE DECISION TRADE MOVEMENT OF TURKS TO THE NORTH FOR BETTER TREATMENT OF GREEKS REMAINING THER, AND DENKTASH'S PROMISE OF FREE MOVEMENT FOR UNFICYP TO OBSERVE CONDITIONS OF REMAINING GREEKS. ON THE OTHERE HAND, WE NOTED CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS BY TURKISH LEADERS, SUCH AS THAT BY CHAGLAYANGIL TO BITSIOS IN HELSINKI, TO EFFECT THAT NOTHING COULD BE EXPECTED FROM TURKEY AS LONG AS ARMS EMBARGO CONTINUED, AND DEMIREL'S CONFIDENTIAL

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VERY COLD REACTION TO PROPOSAL FOR EC-9 INITIATIVE. IN SHORT,

WE WONDERED WHETHER DENKTASH WOULD RECEIVE GOT BACKING FOR FLEXIBILITY HE HAD PROMISED IN VIENNA.

- 3. DOUNTAS CONFIRMED THAT KARAMANLIS HAS PERSONALLY URGED MAKARIOS TO SUPPORT CLERIDES IN CHARACTERIZING VIENNA III RESULTS AS A CLEAR STEP FORWARD. DOUNTAS DENIED THAT VIENNA III HAD SHARPENED MAKARIOS' ANTAGONISM TO CLERIDES AND ASSERTED KARAMANLIS, MAKARIOS AND CLERIDES WERE COMPLETELY IN STEP.
- 4. I EXPRESSED TO DOUNTAS MY MOUNTING CONCERN OVER GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS CAMPAIGN VILLIFYING UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WECKMANN FOR PRO-TURKISH REMARKS ALLEGEDLY MADE DURING A PRESS BACK-GROUNDER TWO WEEKS EARLIER (SEPTEL). RATHER THAN AGREE, DENKTASH SAID HE HAD PERSONALLY VERIFIED WECKMANN'S REMARKS WITH THREE OF CORRESPONDENTS PRESENT. IN HIS VIEW, WECKMANN HAD TEHREBY ENDED HIS USEFULNESS AS AN IMPARTIAL MEDIATOR

AND WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO BOW OUT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. DOUNTAS SAID THIS WAS THE IPINION OF GOC AND GOG AS WELL.

- 5. I TOLD DOUNTAS I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE YET ANOTHER IN THE LONG HISTORY OF GREEK MISTAKES AFFECTING CYPRUS. WECKMANN WAS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER. HIS CANDID IMPARTIALITY WAS PROVEN BY EQUALLY UNWARRANTED ATTACKS FROM THE TURKISH SIDE. DOUNTAS REITERATED THAT THE SITUATION WAS NOW IRREVERSIBLE AND WECKMANN SHOULD RESIGN.
- 6. COMMENT: DESPITE DOUNTAS' ASSERTION, I VERY MUCH DOUBT THAT GOG SUPPORTS GOC IN SEEKING TO FORCE WECKMANN OUT. CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, VIENNA III

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 07 AUG 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NICOSI02443

Document Number: 1975NICOSI02443 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750273-0253

From: NICOSIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750873/aaaacmuu.tel Line Count: 91

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CONVERSATION WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY, UNFICYP, (DOUNTAS)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006